



Dear Citizens,

As Mayor, I have made it the goal of City Government to make Baltimore a cleaner, greener city. A cleaner city makes a healthier environment in which Baltimore residents can work, play and raise their families.

This week, we took another significant step in making our city healthier. On Wednesday it was my great privilege to sign into law the Clean Indoor Air Act. The Act bans smoking in most Baltimore City bars, restaurants and other public buildings.

Cigarette smoke is a contributing factor to a number of preventable diseases, including lung cancer and heart disease, and second-hand smoke is responsible for 50,000 deaths in the United States each year.

The comprehensive and city-wide ban on smoking in public places will go into effect on January 1, 2008. I am grateful for the dedication and diligence of City Council Vice President Robert W. Curran, who championed this bill for several years. Baltimore has taken an important step towards protecting bar and restaurant workers and patrons from illnesses caused by second-hand smoke.

For people who smoke, the nicotine addiction makes quitting difficult. To help people break the habit, the Baltimore City Health Department is making \$100,000 in free nicotine patches and gum available to uninsured or underinsured residents. To find out more about this program, or to talk with someone about quitting, call the Maryland Quitline, 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

This is a great day for public health, and a great day for Baltimore. I am confident that the decision of the City Council will encourage the Maryland General Assembly to pass a state-wide smoking ban. With Baltimore City leading the way, the days of workers choosing between health and employment will soon be over.

As always, I am interested in what you think about our plan to make our city a more attractive place to LIVE, LEARN, PLAY and EARN. Please [email me](#) your comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dixon
Mayor
Baltimore

To find more events in your community, visit Baltimore's Department of Recreation and Parks [Public Events Calendar](#).

Movie Night and Teen Night In

March 2, 2007

6:00 pm – 1:00 am

Lakeland Recreation Center
2921 Stranden Road
Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 396-0091

Members of the Lakeland Youth Advisory Council will take a trip to Marley Station's movie theater (6 – 10 p.m.), and then join their peers for a night of music, game room activities and a basketball tournament. Snacks will be served and everyone is invited. For admission and other associated fees, please contact the center.

Jones Falls Trail Garden

March 3, 2007

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

The Jones Falls Trail
Trailhead across from the Stieff Silver Building
800 Wyman Park Drive
Baltimore, MD 21217
(410) 396-0730

Join local volunteers in an effort to beautify Baltimore's trails. We will create a new garden at the bottom of the Jones Falls Trail switchback. Tools will be provided. No experience necessary. Meet new people, chat, and contribute something to the beautification of Baltimore.

Jones Falls Trail Garden

March 3, 2007

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Reptiles Galore
Carrie Murray Nature Center
1901 Ridgetop Road
Baltimore MD 21207
(410) 396-0808

Explore the world of reptiles with our scaly residents, including some that are native to Maryland. Learn about their adaptations, eating habits, and the various climates in which

they live. Admission is \$1 per person. All ages are welcome.

Neighborhood Tree Steward Training

March 5, 2007

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Neighborhood Tree Steward Training
James McHenry Recreation Center
911 Hollins St.
Baltimore, MD 21223
(410) 396-0729

Join members of the Recreation and Parks' Tree Steward Program for a series of workshops on trees in an urban environment and how to take care of them. Recommended for ages 16 and older. The event is FREE and open to the public.

Lakeland Baseball League

March 5th, 7th, and 8th, 2007

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Lakeland Recreation Center
2921 Stranden Road
Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 396-0091

Register now for Lakeland's Baseball League opening camp and practice. Lakeland is looking for T-Ball players (7 and under), juniors (8-10 years) and seniors (11-13 years). Camps are held on March 5, 7, and 8.

Tuesday Evenings at Cylburn (Lecture)

March 6, 2007

7:30 pm

Cylburn Arboretum Mansion
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Join Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks and the Baltimore Bird Club for a lecture on "Birding in Wales." Mike Bowen, past president of the Montgomery Bird Club, will give an overview of the outstanding natural areas of his native Wales. Using both photographs and audio clips, he will review the nearly 200 birds known to live in one of Britain's most scenic regions.

Getting in the "Swim" of Things

March 8, 2007

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Cherry Hill Aquatics Center
2600 Giles Road
Baltimore, MD 21225
(410) 396-1550

The Therapeutic Recreation Division wants everyone to get in the “swim” of things with our six-week Aqua Aerobics Program. This exciting new program is for adults with disabilities who live and work in the community or who attend adult day centers. The Aqua Aerobics Program will provide participants with an opportunity to get in shape and have a really fun time while doing it.

The program is FREE and open to anyone who loves the water. Day centers will be responsible for transportation and assistance. All participants should bring a towel and every swimmer will be required to complete a permission slip.

Nature Story Hour

March 8, 2007

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Cylburn Arboretum
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Children, ages 3-6, are invited to hear stories about the natural world around them. Learn about insects, trees, flowers, birds and other wildlife in an informal setting just for pre-school age children. Weather permitting, a short nature walk will follow story hour. Admission is \$1 per child.

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